

NICKNAMES, 1929

His hair and complexion
were the same color as
skimmed milk
and everyone called him

Whitey

years before a single black
ever moved to Windwillow
only three people knew
his real name was Olaf

RESOLUTIONS

It isn't that she hasn't
tried before

Chichi O'Brien quits smoking
every New Year's Day
as surely as it comes around

and gives all her candy to
the mailman next day

smiles at him overtly
she will not be the grouch
she always was last year

finding fault with everyone
except the woman
who looks back in the mirror